

## Senate Press Office

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**PRESS RELEASE** 

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## Sen. Heath appointed to rank of Major by Air Force Auxiliary

**ATLANTA** – State Senator Bill Heath (R-Bremen), who recently volunteered to serve as a member of the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, has been awarded the honorary rank of Major for his service to the Georgia General Assembly.

"This is such an honor for me," said Sen. Heath. "I am pleased that my work at the Capitol is being recognized by those who work so hard to save lives, and to protect the freedom and liberty of our country and its citizens."

Sen. Heath is now a member of the Georgia Wing's Legislative Squadron, as he helped to organize the first Civil Air Patrol Day at the Capitol, which was held on March 16, 2006. Sen. Heath was also instrumental in securing additional funding for the Civil Air Patrol in the FY 07 budget.

The Civil Air Patrol is the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and provides critical emergency services, such as search and rescue, disaster relief and humanitarian assistance. Founded on December 1, 1941, the Civil Air Patrol assists the U.S. military in national defense by performing aerial coastal patrols and emergency services within the continental U.S. The Patrol was later chartered by Congress

to perform three distinct missions for America – emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs.

Today, Civil Air Patrol air and ground teams perform approximately 91 percent of inland search and rescue missions tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. The Georgia Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, which is located at Dobbins Air Force Base in Marietta, is comprised of over 1,600 volunteer members, who dedicate their services, time and resources to the Civil Air Patrol

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Sen. Bill Heath represents the 31<sup>st</sup> Senate District, which includes all or parts of Bartow, Haralson, Paulding and Polk Counties. He may be reached at 404.463.1361, or by email at billheath@billheath.net.